

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Claim Listing:

1. (Currently Amended) A locator device comprising
an elongate member, said elongate member having a distal opening and a proximal opening which are connected by a lumen and having a distal portion with a substantially uniform outer diameter wherein said distal opening is located within said distal portion,

said elongate member being adapted to extend into a blood vessel of a patient such that said distal opening is located in the lumen of the blood vessel and such that blood entering said distal opening, flowing through said lumen and exiting through said proximal opening is visible outside of the patient's body, and

said device being provided with a bioabsorbable occlusion member releasably coupled to said elongate member, in contact with said lumen of said elongate member and located distally of said distal opening, said occlusion member being capable of substantially blocking blood flow out of said blood vessel when said occlusion member is withdrawn from said blood vessel lumen and said occlusion member is released from said elongate member within said patient's body.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 1 wherein said occlusion member is expandable.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) A method of installing a closure device for sealing a puncture in a blood vessel wall comprising the steps of

introducing an elongate member through a tract extending from said puncture to the patient's skin, said elongate member having a first opening in its distal region, a second opening in its proximal region and a lumen extending between said first opening and said second opening, said elongate member being provided with a bioabsorbable occlusion member located distally of said first opening such that said lumen of said elongate member contacts said occlusion member and wherein said elongate member has a distal portion with a substantially uniform outer diameter wherein said first opening is located within said distal portion and is adapted to extend into a blood vessel of a patient such that said occlusion member is fully inserted into the lumen of said blood vessel and said first opening is located in the lumen of the blood vessel such that blood entering said first opening, flowing through said lumen and exiting through said second opening is visible outside of the patient's body, and said occlusion member is releasably coupled to said elongate member and capable of substantially blocking blood flow out of said blood vessel when said occlusion member is withdrawn from the lumen of said blood vessel,

advancing said elongate member until said first opening is located within the lumen of said blood vessel such that blood flows into said first opening and out of said second opening,

withdrawing said elongate member until the flow of blood into said first opening is substantially prevented; and

releasing said occlusion member from said elongated member within the tract to substantially block blood flow out of said blood vessel..

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 5 wherein releasing said occlusion member occurs at substantially the same time that blood flow into said first opening is substantially prevented.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A locator device comprising

an elongate member having a first opening in its distal region, wherein said distal region has a substantially uniform outer diameter, a second opening in its proximal region and a lumen extending between said first opening and said second opening;

an occlusion member attached to the distal region of said elongate member such that said lumen of said elongate member contacts said occlusion member and said occlusion member includes a bioabsorbable material and is distal from said first opening;

said elongate member being adapted to extend into a blood vessel of a patient such that said occlusion member is fully inserted into the lumen of said blood vessel and said first opening is located in the lumen of the blood vessel such that blood entering said first opening, flowing through said lumen and exiting through said second opening is visible outside of the patient's body, and said occlusion member is releasably coupled to said elongate member and capable of substantially blocking blood flow out of said blood vessel when said occlusion member is withdrawn from the lumen of said blood vessel.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 9 wherein said occlusion member is expandable.

12. (Cancelled)